ew Mission News

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FESTIVAL DE LAS AMERICAS CELEBRATES LA FAMILIA



by Micbael Rejniak

an Franciscans love their street festivals, and Mission District dwellers are certainly no exeption. This years Festival de las Americas, on September 17, will close a portion of 24th Street to traffic and let the Missions Latin culture take

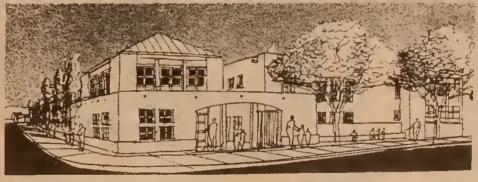
Get a full belly, exhaust yourself dancing and strolling, and enjoy it all under the balloon arches and papel picado decorations. How could it get any better?

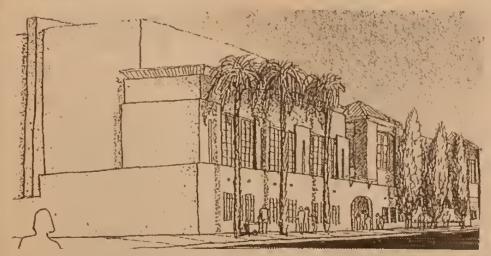
Organizers decided this years festival will honor the family. They are calling the

day long event La Familia. Areas bave been designated for kids and their entertainment. A petting zoo, carnival rides, face painting, prizes and games have been set up so the kids bave something to do, for free. When they need a break, theyll be plenty bungry, and there will be plenty of food to rejuvenate them.

As with the past Carnaval parade and festival, steps are being taken to familysafe the event, such as the childrens area. Beer and other alcohol will be sold by the paper cup, not by the can or glass bottle. Some Festival participants will come from CONTINUED ON PAGE ELEVEN

TWO NEW SCHOOLS FOR THE MISSION





Now that John O'Connell School has been demolished, work will soon begin to build two new schools at the 21st and Harrison Street site. Site preparation work will start in the next few months, and actual construction is slated to begin in January 1996. The project is estimated to take one year.

Moscone Elementary (bottom, view of Harrison Street entrance) will have 360 students, grades kindergarten through fifth grade. Las Americas Child Care Center (top, view of entrance on Treat Street) will serve 200 preschool and school age students.

A garage located between the two

schools will provide both parking and a roof-top playground.

When construction is complete, students will be moved from their old facilities, a block away at 20th and Treat, and a new state-of-the-art John O'-Connell Vocational High School will be built on that site.

The construction is funded through a school bond passed by voters in June 1994. Federal and state earthquake funds earmarked for John O'Connell, which was damaged in the 1989 Loma Prieta Eartbquake, will also be used.



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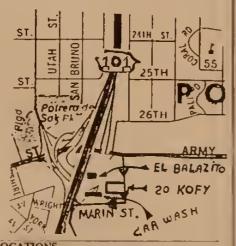
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COPS, NEIGHBORS BLAST BAR

by VIctor Miller

A small bar/restaurant located right next to Moscone Elementary School is causing a storm of protests from neighbors. Both the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control (ABC) and Mission Police Captain Joaquin Santos have promised a stepped up campaign to shut down Mexico Lindo at 2431 Folsom St.

At an August 24 meeting of the Moscone Block Club about twenty five Mission residents met with Santos and ABC Enforcement Supervisor Manuel Diaz and chief of the ABC for the San Francisco area Michael Tyrell at Moscone School. Neighbors complained that Mexico Lindo has been a constant scene of violent incidents and drug dealing for years. Santos agreed, telling the group, "That place isn't even a restaurant its just a place for gambling and selling drugs out of." He said that the previous day the police had stopped a man leaving Mexico Lindo who was carrying 47 bags of heroin. When one man said that all three levels of the building were a source of drug dealing Santos concurred saying "Weve taken ounces and ounces of heroin out of the upper part of Mexico Lindo."

Santos, who grew up about a block away, admitted the bar has been a long term problem. "It's always been like that, always." According to Officer John Land of Mission Station, that certainly holds true. For the last 18 months computer records show police have been called to Mexico Lindo 46 times. These calls have resulted in nine drug busts, most involving multiple parties, four arrests for violent assaults and one arrest for gambling. Mexico Lindo's most alarming incident occurred in July of 1993, when three armed men attempted to rob the bar and a customer was shot to death.

Neighbors were also irate about an incident early this year when they claim a

man leaving Mexico Lindo entered Moscone schoolyard and began waving a pis-

"You know if this place was in Pacific Heights it would be closed down right away, one angry Folsom street resident said.

Neighbors described a steady flow of traffic between the bar and the Mission's latest gang hotspot, 19th and Mission. Santos said in the past few years police have moved the drug-and-thug center of the Mission from Dolores Park to Mission Playground at 19th and Valencia Streets and now to 19th and Mission. On July 26th, 15 year old Louis Ramos was shot to death on that corner.

When one man asked Santos how Mission residents could measure the effectiveness of police actions regarding Mexico Lindo, Santos said "I'll make nine or ten arrests, give you the case numbers and you can follow them up."

The ABC is also intent upon closing down the bar. A furious Manuel Diaz said "I'd like to go over there right now and rip their permit off the wall but they have due process." According to Diaz, in the last six months the ABC had managed suspend Mexico Lindos license for fifteen days and is about to file other charges against the establishment for operating a "disorderly house." Diaz was hopeful that this would result in a permanent license suspension.

He pointed out that in the past couple years the ABC has successfully shut down three other problem Mission establishments: El Vaquero, El Muchacho Alegre and Centro Social De Obrero. But Michael Tyrell admitted that someone determined to drag out the appeals process could do so for as long two as

In a phone interview, Mexico Lindo owner Pablo Vigil, whose family has run Mexico Lindo since 1965, said his business was not used for gambling but cus-



Mexico Lindo and adjacent Moscone schoolyard. Photo by Eugene Kettner.

tomers did play a rummy-like game called Paco. "Maybe they play a game for a beer or coffee but that's all." As for drug dealing: "Yes, the police have been here many times but they never found any drugs in the bar." If people come in here with drugs in their pockets what can I do? I can't search them. What can I tell you? I'm clean; I never had anything to do with

Despite Vigil's protests, ABC and SFPD efforts to close down Mexico Lindo will undoubtedly be accelerated.

AIKI-JUTSU JUJUTSU

KYUSHO-JUTSU KARATE

487-1906

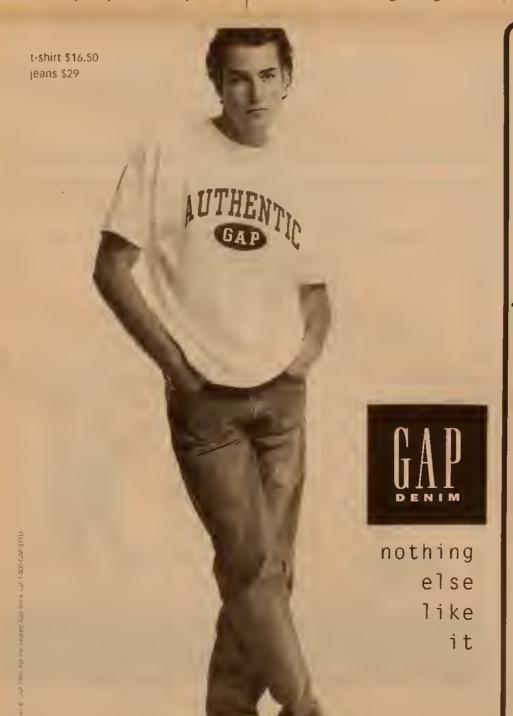
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The City That Doesn't Know How

Everyone who lives in San Francis-co knows that this town is in trouble. The whole country has been in an economic recession for the past three years, and the Republicans are about to lower the boom on the remnants of what used to be known as State and Federal largess.

With roughly 27,000 city employees, San Francisco has about one city employee for every thirty residents. Nearly everyone agrees that a city with a population of 750,000 should NOT have anywhere near this many bodies on the payroll. But, so far, no one has been able to figure out how to fire some of them while maintaining municipal services at their current level.

What's PRIVATIZATION Got to Do With It? On Tuesday, November 7, those of us who vote will be asked, among other things, if the City and County of San Francisco should promote the contracting out of city services. Placed on the November ballot by Mayor Frank Jordan, the bone of contention is Proposition K, entitled: "Privatization of City Services."

According to the SF city attorney, the question is: "Shall the City be required to study annually whether contracting out government services would reduce the cost or improve the efficiency of those services, and shall the City be urged to consider this information when preparing the annual budget?"

According to Robert Oaks, the Mayor's liaison to the Board of Supervisors, Proposition K was suggested by a recent blue ribbon commission on government efficiency headed by Lou Gerardo. Oaks claimed that requiring all City departments to engage in an annual process that measures the cost of city services against comparable services provided by the private and non-profit sectors would motivate the departments to reduce costs.

by andy solow

Contracting Out Mission District Open Space Projects

Recently, the SF Department of Recreation & Parks has contracted out work on a variety of Mission District projects including: the Dolores Park Soccer Field, Alioto Mini-Park, and Jose Coronado Playground. Unfortunately, obvious by these projects, it takes the City an interminable amount of time to complete the necessary paperwork prior to contracting out the work. For example, it took the City nearly a year to process a simple architectural contract modification for Jose Coronado Playground and seven months to negotiate a memorandum of understanding regarding toxins testing for the 23rd and Treat Street Park. It took the SF Conservation Corps nearly two years to complete the extremely simple renovation of Alioto Mini-Park.

If Prop K passes, it might actually force the bureaucrats who are causing these problems and delays to more carefully study some of the possible solutions and expedients.

"Ballot Simplification"

According to the files of the San Francisco Registrar of Voters, the simplified ballot statement for Prop K will read:
"THE WAY IT IS NOW: Most city

services are provided by City employees. City officials are not required to study the possibility of using contractors outside of City government to provide these services. This is called contracting out.

THE PROPOSAL: Proposition K would require the City to study the use of outside contractors to provide City services. Each year, each City department would be required to report on whether

its services could be provided at lower cost or more efficiently by contracting out to an outside contractor or another City Department.

The City could use these reports in planning its annual budget. The Mayor and Board of Supervisors would be urged to allow departments that reduce their costs as a result of contracting out government services to keep 25% of the savings. This money could go towards retraining employees whose jobs had been con-

tracted out or for new equipment.
A 'YES' VOTE MEANS: If you vote yes, you want to require all City departments to do an annual study on contracting out city services."

The Unions Say NO WAY

According to Nancy Gin, head of the SF Labor Council Law and Legislative Committee and President of the Retirees Guild of the International Federation of Professional & Technical Engineers (IFPTE) Local #21:

"The City has been contracting out since the passage of Proposition J in 1976. What Jordan claims he is trying to do [with prop K], he can already do with Proposi-

According to David Novagrodsky, business manager of IFPTE Local #21, which represents over 2,400 city workers (from computer programmers to chemists), Proposition K is not the answer to the City's budget problems. Novagrodsky said:

"Privatization raises a lot of questions. By his introduction of Proposition K, the Mayor is implying that the private sector knows how to do everything right. But, the problem with contracting out to the private sector is that almost everything in the private sector is secret. It is virtually impossible to make a comprehensive analysis of the operating efficiency of a private sector company because most of their records are secret. On the other hand, because of public disclosure laws like the "Sunshine Ordinance and the State Records Act, the books are open on the public sector. It's easier to find out what's going on and hold someone ac-

When I asked Novagrodsky if cutting middle management was the answer, he said: "The problem with San Francisco is that its bureaucracy is top heavy; way overstaffed with top managers. Cutting middle management and contracting out isn't the answer. A lot of work simply won't get done if you fire a lot of the middle managers. They are the key cadre for getting anything done in this town."

On Monday, August 21, the SF Board of Supervisors placed an argument against Prop K on the November ballot. Their position is that the City already contracts out millions of dollars in services annually through Prop J; Prop K will only serve to create more bureaucracy and paperwork. The Board advises us that: "Passing new laws is not the answer to 'reinventing government'. Instead we should faithfully apply our existing laws and ensure that they are aggressively applied. If, in the years ahead, we follow that principle we will continue to save millions of dollars and continue to ensure that vital services are never neglected."

What the Board neglects to say is how they propose to cut the cost of city government. In my humble opinion, if we're not going to cut costs by firing a lot more city bureaucrats, we better force those bureaucrats to figure out how to save the City some more money. If Prop K passes, the prevailing wage clause in the City Charter will still apply, and the City will still have to obtain the approval of the Board of Supervisors before services can be contracted out. It is therefore unlikely that the passage of Prop K will foment a plague of union busting activity.

(Andy Solow is a member of the Sign Display & Allied Crafts Union Local

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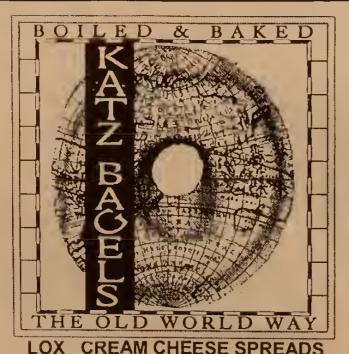
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THE NEW MISSION NEWS BIER LIST

COMPLIED BY KURT BIER

#2 THE MISSION'S WORST LANDLORDS

hy Kurt Bier

The heater in your apartment does not work, the stove sits idle in a corner of your kitchen, uncoupled hoses lay limp and useless across its elements, the cardboard bathtub leaks, and hot water means cold water and cold water colder. You bring this to the attention of the landlord and instead of a repairman she sends INS agents and or demonic spirits, and they dont know a thing about plumbing. You realize then that these are not temporary inconveniences, but permanent conditions.

Your landlord is a slumlord and youre screwed. Between the Mission, the Tenderloin, and the Western Addition, slumlords prosper hy exploiting those unable to ohtain housing hy conventional means. In the Mission these are most often people who lack official documentation, knowledge about their rights as tenants, or both. Desperate, they take what they can get, left to the mercy of those who invariahly lack that very quality. Fortunately, for injustice like this Neli Palma has no mercy either. Working with the St. Peters Housing Committee, she and her staff fight tirelessly for tenants rights, confronting slumlords at their homes, in the courts, and on the streets.

On August 12, she and a group of 20 protestors visited the addresses of five of the Missions worst offenders, demanding quality housing for all. These five, and 2 more, deserve special consideration this month. They represent the cream of the crap as you will see.

1. Virginia Veiasco - Ms. Velasco, of 1302 York, is, as Neli put it, "The kind of woman who would send her own mother

out to make repairs on her rentals." She owns 22 properties in the Mission, collecting them over a period of twenty years. Her transgressions run the gamete: illegal units, failure to make repairs, renting out single rooms, apartments rife with vermin. In her illegal units, often converted hasements or storage spaces, tenants are without heat or stoves, yet still must pay upwards of \$600 to \$700 for a single, hare room. As one city inspector says, if anyone should be jailed for these types of infractions it should be her.

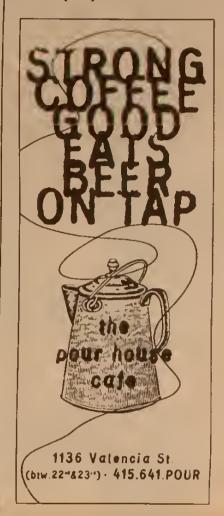
- 2. Lourdes Sainez In 1993 Ms. Sainez purchased a 6 unit property on South Van Ness (she owns a total of eight) and promptly went to work on the senior citizens who had lived there for anywhere from 15 to 30 years. Unhappy with the limitations that these rent controlled apartments placed on her earning power, Ms. Sainez tried to huy out the tenants: one took her up on it and the others chose to stay. Those who remained have not seen a repair since. The cracked walls and leaky ceilings allow any number of rats and roaches to roam freely, they are apparently quite welcome in her dwellings. Areas of her buildings meant for the storage of things now store people-for a price of course.
- 3. Maria Jaracuaro Not a landlord hut a master tenant, Ms. Jaracuaro, of 2376 Folsom, specializes in the nitty gritty of trampling tenants rights. You want to have a guest stay over? Thats \$50 please. The kitchen?, filthy tenants not allowed; the fridge and appliances are chained and locked. Privacy be damned, Ms. Jaracuaro reserves the right to enter any room without notice. Concerned about

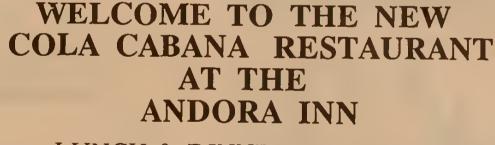
energy conservation, Ms. Jaracuaro restricts the number of appliances tenants can use; its ultimately in their best interest, she believes. The huilding is ugly too.

- 4. Landmark Reality\Robert Imhoff
 -One of the worst in San Francisco. Plain
 and simple, they have a tendency to not
 return deposits. Numerous tenants have
 won cases against Landmark, but few
 have received any compensation;
 Landmark has time and a bureaucracy on
 their side. At one of their properties on
 South Van Ness they turned off the hot
 water in an effort to compel the disgruntled tenants to leave. They have yet
 to succeed, due in large part to the efforts
 of the St. Peters group.
- 5. Ana Oliveros -. Ms. Oliveros owns the property above the Cuba Restaurant, at 16th and South Van Ness, 8 units whose tenants suffer form her peculiar attention. She, like other slumlords, often refuses to make repairs, demands exorhitant rents, and generally harasses those she houses. Fed up, her tenants went to the Rent Board and succeeded in ohtaining a reduction in their rent. Ms. Oliveras fought hack. She threatened them with eviction, allegedly enlisting the help of the INS in her efforts at intimidation. When these tactics failed, she resorted to an oft overlooked alternative - witchcraft. Spells they are, salt and water left before the doors of those who challenged her, a curse of some renown among occultists. Hexed and vexed, her tenants continue to stave off homelessness, succeeding so far, though the battle goes on.
- 6. Monica Hujazi Illegal units are one of the most lucrative ways to wring supplemental income form a property as a whole. In a building owned by Ms. Hujazi at 1208 Alabama, two illegal units, one in the basement and one crammed into a storage shed, bring in \$1200 a month in extra cash. The shed space has three rooms, each oppressed by illegally low ceilings. The new toilet sits atop a hole in the floor in which previous tenants relieved themselves. Her more legitimate

rentals suffer from conventional indifference: rooms are rented out separately leading to overcrowding, repairs are rare, trouble with insects and rats, rusty water, and general dilapidation.

7. Roger Kwan - Owns 2 properties in the Mission. When inspectors last visited his tenements at 1750 Mission they found the paint still drying on his slipshod attempts to mask the decay wrought of neglect. A couple of coats of glossy enamel substitutes well for plaster, the walls as good as new. Mold, plumhing problems, windows that will not close, useless appliances, and leaky ceilings comhine to give Mr. Kwan's huildings a distinct quality.





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VOYAGERS TREK FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

AGAINST GRIME AND JAMESTOWN KIDS SPEAK OUT

by Kurt Bier

Lt happens a lot. Its hard not to notice, and then become depressed by, the amounts of litter, graffiti, and violence in the Mission. Who cares, one wonders, and it seems an immutable reality. No one has the energy to deal with these pervasive problems. No one, that is, except a group of 30-40 entuisiatic 10-13 year olds, angry at the apathy they see and eager to make a difference.

Brought together by the Jamestown Community Center, these kids constituted the Summer Voyage, Jamestowns six week environmental action program. Between field trips to Marine World and wilderness areas, these young adults conceived, organized, and implemented advocacy projects addressing littering, recycling, and graffiti. They also designed and painted a mural dealing with violence and gangs, issues they feel most directly affect their environment.

A recent visit to Edison Elementary, operations base for the Voyagers, put some kids around the nearly completed mural, while others worked on collages summarizing each week of the program. They were anxious to share their feelings about what they had done. Ivan Castillo, 10, liked the games and field trips and thought that, due in part to their efforts, "People are recycling more, helping the earth by not littering and stuff." Comelia Breed, 10, agreed. She and those in her group distributed information to local

merchants urging people to be more conscious of their environment. "Most businesses want to stop littering now," was her assessment. Voyager Counselor Laila

Graffiti was another hot topic. Joey Iturribarra, 10, and Justin Linebaugh, 9, found that not all graffiti is undesirable. "Some graffiti is good like art, and some is



Voyagers' anti-violence mural. Photo by Eugene Kettner

Balderos, said that younger kids respond better than the community at large and to the needs of the environment. "They realize the need to recycle everything, aware that every little thing adds up."

dirty and should be cleaned up," they con-Alex Lepe, 12, agreed cluded. that, "There should be some place, like a wall or something, were people can do graffiti." Monique Fragoso, an outspoken 11 year old, said "There should be more murals and less tagging. Murals look

Of all the projects the kids worked on, the most important appeared to be the mural on gangs and violence. Nando Saavedra, 12, thought, "It might help stop gang violence. People are too lazy to do anything about it. There should be an incentive program where we pay people \$10 if they catch a burglar."

"We need to talk to violent people," said Comelia. "I talked my brother out of being in a gang, and I think other people can do the same." Alex felt the pressure of living in an unsafe urban environment, "We can't live our whole life looking behind our backs, we gotta talk to gang members. Monique added, "Kids are in gangs because theres nothing else to do.
They need a place to hang."

Katie Brackenridge, Director of the

Summer Voyage, is planning to repeat Summer Voyage next year. And if she succeeds, we all stand to benefit from the attention that kids are willing to give to the livability of the community. To see the completed mural, visit Edison Schools courtyard where it stays for now. Jamestown also offers after school programs for children. To enroll a child or volunteer your time, contact Katie at 647-4709. The Summer Voyage is made possible by grants from the Northern California Grantmakers, the Fred Gellert Foundation, the Mckesson Corporation and Foundation, and the Wells Fargo Bank.









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GRITO DE LA MISION: '95 YOUTH ARTS JAM



by L. Newman Fuentes

Trito de la Mision: '95 Youth Arts Jam. A collaborative effort between Southern Exposure's Artists in Education (AIE) program, La Casa de los Jovenes, Horizons Unlimited, and Youth in Action, obtained the goal of inspiring community interaction and arts appreciation. Four multi-disciplined artists worked with Mission youth, exploring urban issues such as race, immigration, and the environment through creative expression. All this culminated in "Mission Voices", last months packed-house exhibition at Southern Exposure Gallery.

Mixed-media installation pieces included:

"La Pared Encantada" (The Haunted Wall), addressed the immigrant experience, defining ideas of positive and negative space. Using family histories, artist/activist Yolanda Lopez and sculptor Thet Shein Win led students through the natural and intellectual artistic process to a broader understanding of self and community. The installation showed that "we all have stories to tell and these stories overlap in many ways."

"Two Sided Masks" confronted perceived and projected identity, allowing students to show an "otherwise unseen internal self. "Body Outlines" further expressed that awareness as the young artists associated long and short term goals with their developing personas. Sculptor Agelio Batle's primary goal was to "articulate and amplify the voices of these youth" through interactive mixed-media. Students also produced an audio tape of their discussions of the issues with questions directed at the audience. The recordings were played back in hopes of initiating further discussion.

"Mission Map" charted spatial perspectives marking places significant to youth. Aside from their homes and schools, teens identified gang territory, safe and peaceful hang-out spots, and evoked both cherished and violent memories. "Here we attempted to extend the self into a physical community. It becomes a document of how young people negotiate and value the geography surrounding them," said Batle. Viewers were push pens to actualize their relationship to the map.

"Youth Photo Essays" Mixed-media artist Alfonso Moret worked with young adults from Horizons Unlimited, exploring the cultural mechanics of Mission life through photography. The poignant visual essays told a narrative story using a series of black and white images. Moret noted that "their work is visionary in many ways. There's poetic imagery and very heartfelt information that's coming through.'

Powerful camera angles and impressive composition enhanced the truth and honesty of the work. Sergio Rivas spoke of the Mariposa Gardens apartment complex, once a childhood haven, now a cage he has outgrown where he feels both safe and trapped. Luis Coria's precious tribute to his Mother who works in a tortilla factory reminded us of "the delicious taste of tortillas, you eat one and want more...Burritos have flower tortillas, enchiladas have corn tortillas, and don't forget the tortilla chips." Coria shared his appreciation of his Mother's sacrifices to help support the family. "I feel that it is very important not to take for granted any product that we eat. I think it is necessary to value the effort and work of those who produced these items."

Southern Exposure's Artists in Education program was started in 1989 in response to the lack of art programs in public schools and the lack of creative outlets for youth. Engaging community organizations, students, and artists in a dynamic, educational forum, AIE strives to promote cross-cultural exchange, hands-on creative experiences, and community awareness.

"I think the title Mission Voices was a od title, because it allowed the artists as well as the students to find a way of creating that voice." said Moret, who will take the photographic exhibit to Collision Gallery and Flax Art Supplies this Fall.

All of the participating students I spoke with expressed their gratitude for the programs, a desire to see them continue and in every case, a desire to stay involved either as students or future mentors. It was apparent that Mission youth have a lot to say "and it's powerful, its

articulate, it's creative, it's inspiring... asked to add their own stories, using red THE MISSION'S ONLY WORM SOURCE & ORGANIC GARDENING CENTER

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TAKES TO CHANGE

by Nina

vo'le. I used to claim red as my color. Natoma was my varrio. It was hella cool, at first: Drinking 40's, smoking weed...you know, all that good shit. Then one of my Homeboys got stabbed and he died two weeks later. But, that was not all. Later, two more of my Homeboys also died. One got shot in the head, the other one committed suicide. After all this, the gang banging just wasn't fun anymore; the set died out. No one was chilling anymore. The guys that were left all went to jail. Even I did. Jail was terrible. I

cried everyday and wanted to kill myself. After that I decided to go to church and accept God into my life and when I did, I felt a lot better. But, it takes time to change. Though I am not fully changed I'll let God deal with it. Give the Lord a chance!

Gang members, this is your column. This is your voice. This is your opportunity to speak out. Send your words, poems, rap songs and art work to Deanne Berger-Moudgil, Column Editor for Gangspeak, c/o New Mission News, 777 Valencia, SF, 94110.



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STREET WAR

"If you've got a gun to sell, now is the time, 'cause everybody's huying."

I thanked my 16-year old advisor for the tip, but said I'd rather starve than sell guns to him or his teenage friends. He said that was OK, he knew where he could pick up a .357 for \$25 or so.

The July 26 murder of 15 year old Luis Ramos on 19th Street signaled the resurgence of gang violence in the Mission, to the dismay of kids, community activists and neighbors. Ramos' attackers were prohably seeking revenge for an earlier assault at the 24th Street BART that wounded a couple of Norteños. Since then, there have heen several drive-hys and a number of gang fights.

Why is this happening now? No one knows, not even the kids. "We didn't get the usual end-of-school gang activity," says Sgt. Dave Horton of the Gang Task Force. "Things were pretty quiet through June and most of July." The heat, and associated drinking, could he part of it. Secondly, it's horedom. "I wish I could be out there," one ex-gangbanger, forced into retirement by marriage, told me. "I miss the excitement, and there's not much else happening." The free flow of drugs and heer doesn't help, and competition for drug-selling turf can cause violence.

Most of all, it seems to me, a new generation of young gangsters has come along. No one cut them off at the pass. When my veterano friend was out there heating and shooting, the current crop of bangers were 10 years old. They could have been saved, then, with enough atten-

tion from adults and a few alternatives. Now that they're 15 and armed, it's a lot harder.

What can we do about it? Again, no one's sure. Real Alternatives Program (RAP), is the Mission's designated gang prevention agency. Their street outreach program, Calles, takes carloads of violence-prone youths out of town for an evening and talks sense to them. Does it work? Calles Director Ray Balheran refused comment, but another RAP staff member told me that the upsurge of violence had taken them by surprise.

Neighhorhood "peace patrols" in the 24th Street area around Chavez and Bryant schools have drawn crowd turnouts as high as 50. No one knows how much effect they have on youth, hut the walks do show everyone that the community cares, and they're definitely empowering for those who participate.

The police strategy is to stay on top of things, especially hy confiscating weapons. "We try to put out small fires hefore they become big ones," says Horton. "We've taken a lot of guns off the streets."

Coalition 2?

Actually, you can't blame the kids. Look at the constant warfare between resident groups and nonprofit agencies, waged with words, lawsuits, and political influence. If adults can't work together, how can we expect a hunch of teens to do it?

I have a dream. Actually, it's Rohyn

Snyderman's dream, but I borrowed it. Can we have a Mission Coalition that involves active residents, husinesses, non-profits, at least, as partners in building up the community? Can we stop the civil war and cooperate, as many other neighborhoods have succeeded doing? Such a coalition would require that all three groups have an equal voice, because as soon as one group dominates, the others will drop away. This equality could even be written into the by-laws. The new coalition could also include artists, youth, and church groups.

There's already been a start. Neighbors and husiness people are walking together in the peace patrols. Folks are working together on the enterprise community. Who will take the next step, and when?

Such a coalition wouldn't solve all our problems. It wouldn't organize for us. But it would make things a lot easier. Imagine residents turning out to support nonprofits' requests for funding, businesses sponsoring block clubs, housing and service programs planned with resident input. Imagine registering some voters and getting real influence in government. Maybe if adults make peace,

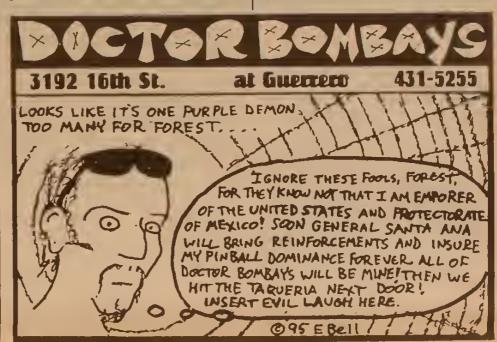
the youth will follow.

Community Get-togethers

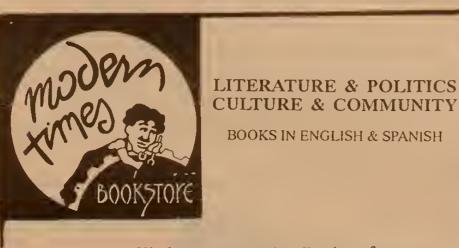
Youth for Service, on 14th St., helps youth get job-ready and acquire marketable skills. They've gone through some hard times, but they're coming back strong with auto and computer repair classes and many other programs. You can help them out, have fun, and eat good pasta at their Spaghetti Fundraiser, Thursday, September 7, from 5 - 8 pm at 25 14th Street; \$2 for kids and \$10 for adults.

The Festival de Las Americas, also known as the 24th Street Fair, will take place Sunday, September 17. The Fair's theme is "La Familia." Organizers want a "quiet, peaceful event, where mothers can come with their strollers," says Gloria Tanner of Mission Economic and Cultural Association (MECA), the Festival planners. For the third year running, no alcohol will be sold on the street, and local liquor stores will sell beer in paper cups, provided by MECA, instead of bottles.

"We will have 200 volunteers," says Tanner. "There will be a youth hlock, a children's block, a merchants' block. It's a beautiful effort."







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AN OPEN LETTER TO PETE WILSON

Marcos Gutierrez Comments A Latina/Chicano Perspective

Dear Pete,

I found it very interesting that Mr. Jesse Jackson would call you the Susan Smith of politics. The immediate image that came to mind was something I heard many years ago while I was in Mexico, that the "Americanos eat their young." I never did believe that but now I am having second thoughts.

Anyway, I have come to the conclusion that you don't care for people and that you are in negotiations with the devil himself for your very soul. That is the only way that I can fathom the actions that you have taken during the last few months. The suffering that you have caused in this land

is beyond repair.

First, you hit us with the unconstitutional Proposition 187, which you used to win your campaign for governor. Then you tell us you will stay and serve your term but instead you're running around the country for presidency. Your word is worthless.

Now you go around spreading racism and then, with a smile, say it's not about race. You are a chronic liar. You know people are tired of the joblessness, the drugs, the crime, the grime, and the homeless. But most important, you know that the white, voting male is scared. Scared of losing the privileged position he has held for so long. Scared of a possible multi-ethnic, multi-gender world where they will have to be just one, of many minorities.

And so Mr. Wilson, there you are, in the tradition of all great American heroes. A Super-Macho coming to the rescue of a populace in danger of allowing the people of "color" and women an equal footing. Yes, Pete, you are right on the money, your public awaits your leadership. A knight in flashing, shinning and, yes, white armor. The Aryan Nation adores and publicly endorses your every move. How could we have survived for so long without

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If elected, you will abolish the only machinery which has attempted to level the playing field, Affirmative Action. A decision obviously made without consulting your conscience, knowing that you are the only one that matters -- the All-

Yes, Pete, you have arrived, with your handsomely sinister jaw and crackling voice. Picture yourself Pete, with your wife, hand-in-hand being sworn-in to the presidency. Hundreds, no, thousands, no, millions and billions throughout the world focused on you Pete; it is Manifest Destiny I tell you.

Who cares how many people you step on? So what if you are blinded by visions of power, universal prestige and presidential benefits, you and "mommie" have always known you deserve them. For thousands of years you will be remembered, statues will be erected of your figure in cities here and abroad.

"Viva Pete," the crowds will chant, "he saved America." But frankly my dear, I'm tired of your dream, my nightmare. Get off it. Your days are numbered, your advisors are through, your actions are phony and your wife doesn't know how to dress

And one more thing Pete, I perceive a pro-Nazi fire burning in the dark night before the storm in this beloved U.S.A. People are tired and desperate, they don't know what to do. Are you ready to light the torch Pete? Are you ready to feed the flames of a race war? Be careful where you lead your nation, sometimes the momentum of a movement squashes its leaders in the most vile ways. You will have to pay for very misguided soul, and we don't accept credit.

Sinceramente,

Marcos Eusebio Gutierrez

Dear reader: Please cut this column out and send it to Governor Wilson, State Capitol, Sacramento. Gracias.

NEW COLLEGE OPENS CULTURAL CENTER



The New College of California inaugarates its new cultural center at 766 Valencia with "Artists Respond to 187" The show runs September 15- October 20. An artists reception and cultural program will be held from 6to 9 pm on September 15.

HERRERA HOMECOMING



On August 7th, noted author, poet and professor Juan Felipe Herrera returned to Marshall Elementary School where he was a student in the '60's. Herrera read from his new book, "Calling the Doves," which deals with his experiences growing up as a migrant farmworker. Marshall students in a cultural program they designed themselves shared their own poems and writings with Herrera. Photo by Eugene Kettner.

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THE EDITOR LETTERS TO

Housing Fears Found False

Editor:

Thank you very much for contributing to a critical community discussion by publishing Robin Snyderman's Heart of

the City piece (July 1995).

Hateful attacks such as the letters Robin describes are an ugly part of the picture of opposition to affordable housing throughout the San Francisco Bay I have been monitoring this widespread and predictable opposition for the last 10 months through a grant from the law firm of Pillsbury, Madison & Sutro. Many commonly expressed fears, such as decreased property values, increased crime, and deterioration of neighborhood character, are based in discriminatory attitudes about prospective residents. Reputable studies, including one by the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency called "Following Up," proved that the dreaded events do not occur. Genuine concerns about traffic, parking, and architectural design are usually worked out with the developer, but these issues sometimes mask the same discriminatory attitudes.

Unfortunately, insecurity about our jobs and a sense that we are losing control over our community are misdirected to become attacks on less powerful people and on individuals like Nick Levinson and Daniel Hernandez who are doing good work in the community. These attacks are sad and tragic because they undercut real solutions to our troubles.

Affordable housing is an asset to the community because it enables individuals to get a start working at entry-level jobs which don't pay enough for market-rate rents, and because it allows the more vulnerable members of our community a safe place to achieve their potential. Often, as in the South Van Ness development, affordable housing beautifies the community increasing nearby property values.

A committee of the Non-Profit Housing Association of Northern California is working to dispel the myths surrounding affordable housing. Our hope is to generate active, passionate support for affordable housing, or at least to inoculate reasonable people from the NIMBY virus spread by the author of letters reported in Robin's reflection. As Robin writes, the

Sincerely, Tim Iglesias Staff Attorney, Home Base

"results are worth the struggle."

MHDC is A-OK says former E.D.

As the former Executive Director of the Mission Housing Development Corporation (MHDC), I was extremely distressed to read Robin Snyderman's account of hate mail sent to MHDC staff because of plans to develop 30 units of affordable rental housing at 21st and South Van Ness. Can this be the same Mission District in which I lived and worked for so many years to provide decent housing in the most expensive housing market in the country?

Since I left MHDC in 1992, I have been working at The Enterprise Foundation, a national organization dedicated to providing fit and affordable housing to those most in need of it. In my position, I travel to many communities in cities throughout the United States, all facing the same need for decent and affordable housing for lower income residents. Yet, nowhere that I've traveled compares to the desperate need faced by residents of San Francisco or the Mission District... and nowhere have I seen a better housing development organization than MHDC!

Only 20% of San Franciscans can afford the median priced home, making this the most expensive housing market in the country. With typical rents approaching \$1,000 for a 2-bedroom apartment (last I

checked), and vacancy rates hovering near zero, it's no wonder so many San Francisco renters struggle to get by. A working family would require an income of \$40,000 to afford such rents and not be considered "cost burdened" by Federal standards. Yet minimum wage provides something less than \$9,000 a year!

MHDC provides high-quality, wellmanaged housing for the many families struggling to get ahead, but unable to afford San Francisco's sky-high rents. I can vouch that there are thousands of applicants every time MHDC opens up a new building. MHDC's property management company, Caritas Management Corporation, has been nationally recognized as one of the most capable community-based property management companies specializing in nonprofitowned housing.

In addition to providing housing, MHDC has a strong commitment to neighborhood revitalization. By developing attractive and well-maintained housing, MHDC creates community assets out of previous eyesores. Its many services for tenants, as well as its activities with Mission District residents and merchants, demonstrate that MHDC is much more than a housing provider...it is a community institution, with community representation among staff and board, engaged in promoting the greater welfare of the Mission!

I can only hope this mean spirited attack on hard working and dedicated MHDC staff is an isolated occurrence by a lone individual. To even imagine that such vicious and personal attacks could be the product of broader sentiment is simply too painful for me to imagine.

Maryann Dillon **Director of Housing Services**

Diatribe or Dialog?

Editor:

While the ongoing correspondence between the editors of the New Mission

NEW MISSION NEWS 777 VALENCIA S.F., CA. 94110

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ARTS CONSULTANT

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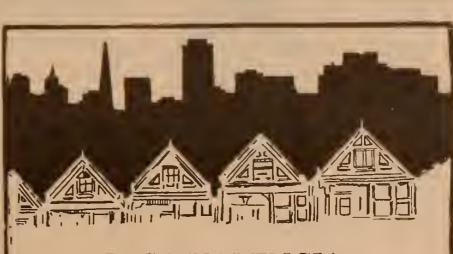
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News and Bay Guardian contains many personal attacks (tone that down), I also see in it a potentially fruitful dialog (or is it alternating monologues?). Whatever their other foci, both papers share a desire to improve life for Mission denizens. Victor Miller may perhaps be right that the Guardian's firm stance Downtown exploitation of neighborhood resources has ossified into an antagonism toward all collaboration with Business. Conversely, Mr. Brugman validly warns that anyone negotiating with Business needs to remain aware that Downtown's interests are not the same as the Neighborhoods'. Mr. Brugman, I think, overstates this point when, in a letter printed in the NMN, August 1995, he uses the phrase "their anti-neighborhood policies." I doubt that their policies are anti-neighborhood per se, pursuing "anti" policies is nearly always a waste of time. Downtown's policies are, certainly, prothemselves and this may result in their being anti-neighborhood in effect but this is not to say that they are so by design.

It is when I argue with people that have the same goals as myself that I find myself most critically examining my assumptions. I hope that Mr. Miller and Mr. Brugman recognize that they have the same goals and I hope that this makes them critically examine their own assumptions. I think that both men have accurately pointed to weaknesses in the others' positions but since each man's statements also contain extraneous personal comments the accurate ones may be overlooked. If you can't be nice, at least keep printing each other's letters because it does make entertaining reading.

Bill Peterson

Rename Renamed Army St.

Editor:

I agree with the spirit of Jesse Arreguin's letter (Letters to the Editor, August). Cesar Chavez was a great leader and role model for many. He deserves to be honored. Renaming Army Street is not the best way, however.

Unfortunately, Jesse has received incorrect information regarding the cost of changing the name of Army Street. Here are the facts:

1. Official estimates on the cost of renaming Army Street cover only the cost of street signs.

The fact is that there's a lot more involved to changing the name of a street than putting up new signs. Updating city

records and sidewalk markings are two other major undertakings. And when you consider these projects and others in conjunction with Army Street, which runs more than three miles, you'll see that the expense is anything but insignificant. Volunteers, no matter how numerous, cannot complete such projects.

2. Official estimates on the cost of renaming Army Street ignore those tax-payers most affected-Army Street residents and businesses.

Every Army Street resident and business will incur costs to comply with the street name change. One business has calculated that it will cost at least \$10,000. Multiply that by the more than 40 businesses on Army Street, and you'll once again see that the total cost to taxpayers is substantial.

In contrast, the cost of restoring the name "Army Street" is insignificant, as the old Army Street signs have been saved.

Jesse is correct on another point: the future belongs to the children. That's why we have to be fiscally responsible today in choosing ways to honor our heroes so as to ensure resources are available for future generations. Renaming Army Street is not the way to do this.

Mitchell Friedman

Living in the Hood

Editor:

Summer! Escape from the Velvet Barrio = T minus 600 miles, and a final stop for overdue library books. We zip past 24th and Mission and notice two of the City's finest, batons out, questioning an old-timer warming a bench. If the old-timers went missing, the corner would be useless. We zoom up to the library with the police on our tail now: "Where're you guys going?" says the cop, "Dropping off books at the library," says we "got a problem with that?"... "Come on-" says the uniformed jerk "three people in a car, in this neighborhood?"; "Hey-" we say, in unison "WE LIVE HERE."

I spent my entire vacation in deep a depression, thinking; just what did that cop mean, anyway? When we got back to the City, I went to the MISSION VOICES art exhibit at Southern Exposure and I'd like to personally thank the artists, their assistants, and especially the students involved for giving me back a profound sense of community that had been so rudely distorted. Yes, we live in the Mission. We LIVE IN THE Mission.

-Lisa Gonzalez

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FESTIVAL CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

the nonprofit sector offering detailed information on free and low-cost family and youth social and medical services.

The annual festival is a much anticipated way to enjoy the waning days of a San Francisco summer and make new friends in a neighborhood thats constantly changing and adding new faces.

changing and adding new faces.

Three stages for live Latin music performances will line the 24th Street route. Food, art, and crafts focus on South and Central America, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba and other Latin countries. 24th Street merchants will come out from their shops and fill other booths, taking up the rest of the streets space.

Latin foods will be served and eaten, again and again. Food everywhere. The smell and the love of food. Of course, any social happening enhances the soothing, euphoric effects of food -- dont neglect this opportunity to enjoy food with the community's company.

Local and international artists will display their works. Revelers can carouse amid the colorful and skillfully constructed art and crafts. And when youre just about worn out, find the canopied tables, take a break while sipping a horchata. Refresh yourself. Then, eat again -- therell be plenty of food.

FZSF, KIQI, and KBRG/KLOK, local Spanish radio stations, will be providing their own type of Latin music for the three stages. Crowds will surely be dancing to Tex-Mex, Salsa, Banda, and other rhythms. Its hard to imagine any pair of feet will be idle. So take off the inhibition, sway the hips, move the arms, and dance. Try finding someone to show you how, a wonderful way to make a friend.

The event organized by Mission Economic Cultural Association and sponsored by the 24th Street Merchants Association, begins at 11 AM and ends at 6 PM. With the corporate sponsorship, many promotional trinkets are expected to find their way to the hands and bags of the festival attendees. The festival runs between South Van Ness and York Streets

For more information, contact MECA on 415-826-1401.

SOCCER CHAMPS



The undefeated JC Chivas of Jose Coronado Playground Photo by Andy Solow

by Andy Solow

The Mission Youth Soccer League (MYSL) 1995 summer season ended on Saturday August 26 at Kezar Stadium with six games for under 8 year olds and championship games for the under 10, 12, 14, and under 18 year olds. More than 300 children participated.

According to Jose Coronado (JC) Playground Recreation Director Jose Guzman: "Three of the four division championships (under 8, 10, 12, and under 14) were won by teams from Jose Coronado Playground."

In the under 8 division, the Rangers beat the Vipers 3-2, the JC Shockers beat the Panthers 2-0, San Felipe beat the SSF Sharks 3-2, the Wildcats beat the Coyotes 2-1, and the JC Chivas and the SF Earthquakes tied 2-2. The JC Chivas, the only undefeated under 8 team, were the overall champs of the under 8 division.

In the under 10 Championship, JC

Guadalajara beat the SSF Raptors 3-0. In the under 12 Championship, the Mission Stars beat JC Chivas 1-0. In the under 14 Championship, JC Mexico beat the SF Eagles 4-1. In the under 18 Championship, the SF Earthquakes beat the Mavericks 1-0.

MYSL is funded through the Mayor's Office of Children Youth & Their Families (MOCYF). Starting from scratch three years ago, with an annual budget of less than \$30,000, MYSL now has over 700 youth soccer players participating in its 3 month summer league. More than 350 youth players participate year round; and all at less than 1/10th of the cost of the average SF youth program per client hour.

Both individuals and teams may sign up for MYSL year round. For further information about the Mission Youth Soccer League, please call Jose Guzman at 648-8049 or page him at 708-7986.



IT'S THE ECONOMY, STUPID!

AN ONGOING REPORT ON THE ENTERPRISE COMMUNITY
AND RELATED MATTERS
by Victor Miller

There's No Business Like Show Business

The 9,000 square foot York Theater at 24th and York, vacant for nearly six years, may soon be a major center of the arts activity spot once again -- activity. that could provide a much needed stimulus to the economic life of 24th Street. While nearly all of the Mission's movie theaters have been taken over by trinketdom or left to die (only the Tower holds on), the York may be spared that fate if BRAVA! for Women in the Arts completes the home stretch run of fundraising necessary to purchase and renovate the grand old theater and adjacent storefronts.

BRAVA!, a local feminist and multicultural theater organization, has been searching for over three years for a 200 seat capacity space. BRAVA! lost an opportunity to buy the old Eureka Theater at 16th and Folsom and suffered another setback when community opposition kept the Redevelopment Agency from setting up a survey area in the Mission which could have funded purchase of a theater. Bouncing right back from all this, BRAVA! is now within sight of rounding up the \$1 to 1.5 million the York project will cost.

BRAVA! currently provides some very innovative and original productions which often have to struggle against the confining atmosphere of BRAVA!'s cramped quarters at 21st and Bryant. The renovated York theater will include an

ample 300 seat theater, plus classrooms and offices. BRAVA! will also use the facility to direct one of the Mission's strongest assets -- it's arts community -- toward the resolution of one of it's most intractable problems -- youth unemployment. A major component of the rehabilitated York will be its use as a training center for youth employment in the arts.

While BRAVA! will stage all of its own productions at the York, the theater will also be available to other theater groups on a rental basis. According to BRAVA! Executive Director Ellen Gavin, a number of theater groups have expressed interest in using the facility when completed, including the SF Mime Troupe, Teatro Adelante, Teatro de la Esperanza and Thick Description. BRAVA! itself will increase the number of jobs it provides from its current 77 per year to 169 when the York is in full swing. The renewed night time activity in the area, 100 to 300 people during performance nights, should provide some welcomed extra cash to local businesses as well as make the area safer. To handle the increased parking demand Gavin said she has secured tentative approval from SF General Hospital for use of their new parking facility.

Besides loans, BRAVA! has gotten private foundation and city financing. According to Gavin, BRAVA! has received a \$74,000 grant from the Mayor's Office of Community Development for its job training and renovation program, \$15,000 from the Cultural Equity Endowment, \$7,000 from the Women's Foundation,

and \$4,050 from the National Cultural Facilities Fund.

By far the most significant grant for this project comes from the \$1 million fund of city money designated for economic development on 24th Street. Last month BRAVA! won a key approval from the 24th St. Revitalization Committee for a grant of \$250,000, the last of such money available to nonprofits to purchase property in the 24th Street area. Another community review body and the Redevelopment Agency must still approve the deal and BRAVA! must also demonstrate all other financing for the project is secured but the Revitalization Committee okay was a major step. It may have put BRAVA! over the top.

However, Jorge Hernandez, president of the 24th Street Merchant's Association, expressed some reservations about the York venture. "They haven't shown us a plan of exactly how this will benefit local businesses.... I also think it's a real loss to reduce a 900 seat theater, with parking requirements grandfathered into a 300 seat theater." Be that as it may, it looks as if BRAVA!'s long winter of discontent is to be made into a glorious summer by this sun of York.

There's No Business Like No Business

Correspondent Kurt Bier checks in with this No business item:

"Don and Lenay Allen are not happy. They are the owners of Radio Valencia, which, as most of us know, was accidentaly demolished by the S.F. Fire Department last June. Anxious to re-open, they are now mired in bureaucracy and red tape, and will in all likelihood not be serving delicious pizzas and yummy salads at a snail's pace until late November or early December. The landlord who owns the building in which RV resides is still waiting for his insurance claim to be resolved, and only after that can the Allens file their own claim. Once adjusted and satisfied,

they must still choose a contractor and begin construction. Most frustrating is the fact that the rebuilding should only take a month or so, but getting there is a long road, a road they're having trouble even finding. As for their claim against the city, a claim that deals strictly with lost business, its resolution remains years away. In the meantime they make due, staying with friends and in their car, playing scrabble and writing poetry. They look forward to re-opening and are grateful that they can do so without a heavy heart. As Don said, 'It's a gift that no one was hurt. That is a pain you would never get over.' On the bright side, a benefit held recently to assist the Allens in this time of need was a smashing success. Over 400 people paid the \$10 cover to enjoy the songs of over 70 musicians who donated their time and talent, a sign of how important RV and its owners are to this community. Don and Lenay wish to thank all those who attended and everyone for their patience. Don't fret, RV will be broadcasting again soon."

Invasion of the Potty Snatchers

Actions taken by BART director James Fang that will delay or cancel installation of the JC DeCaux public toilets at the 16th and 24th Streets have p.o.'ed the Mission Merchant's Association. A press release issued by the Merchant's Association made note of the unpleasant odor which all too often characterizes these two locations and states: "We applaud the efforts to address this problem with a flexible state of the art public toilet which has proved itself at the BART Plaza at Powell and Market."

Fang will nonetheless go ahead with his plan to hold hearings on the toilet issue. For some reason these hearings of the BART Public Affairs Committee will take place at 800 Madison St. in Oakland(!) at 9 am on Thursday September 7.

But if you've gotta go, you've gotta go.



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Chevron Corporation is providing work experience to youth by sponsoring these high school students from neighborhoods throughout the city so they can work at 12 different non-protit agencies. Pictured with the students is Magdalena Campos of the Private Industry Council of San Francisco, Inc.

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DIGITAL POPULISM

S.F. DIGITAL MEDIA CENTER TELLS A CUTTING EDGE STORY

by Murray Paskin

What distinguishes the San Francisco Digital Media Center (SFDMC) is that it infuses its cutting edge technology programs with a heavy dose of good old Yankee populist idealism. The SFDMC is a nonprofit educational institution promoting creative use of, and mass access to, new media. Co-director Joe Lambert's vision is a center providing large numbers of people with the capability of getting their message out to the world using state-of-the-art technol-

Though Lambert's interest in new media goes back aways, a visit to a weekend workshop at the American Film Institute's (AFI) National Video festival in 1993 turned out to be the catalyst that led to the founding of SFDMC. The workshop introduced digital technology to a small group who, using visual images from their personal lives, created five to ten minute video documentaries. "What blew me away was that I saw what amounted to novices create, edit, and show publicly completed videos after only

Even more impressive was the fact that, although having worked in films and TV, the group not only had no previous experience with the new technology to which they were being exposed but most had hardly worked with computers at all. It was one of those defining moments where I saw a future, not only for myself but for a whole society. It was a form of personal expression which could be political in terms of people determining the nature of their stories, having their own

Using the AFI workshop as a model, SFDMC instituted the notion of storytelling, or one's personal story, as a basis for its work. An occupational hazard of those working with new media has always been

an obsession with the possibilities of state of the art technology at the expense of content or what the artist wants to communicate. Starting with "story" as a teaching tool begins to demystify the technology, making it relevant to the beginner as well as providing an organizing principle. This approach also reflects a recent trend in new media users. According to Lambert, "the last few years began to see computer-based labs spring from communities from the world of literature rather than those who work with moving images, or even photography." At this point, the approach becomes even more unorthodox as traditional creative writing technique is applied to an, essentially, visual medium.

The practitioner chooses familiar but meaningful visual images from his personal life - family and childhood photos, home movies, art on home walls, newspaper articles that have strong personal associations, etc. The images are then strung together to form a narrative. Camera work is unnecessary because the main source for the work is still images, as One of the most innovative features of that series was the effect of the combination of creative manipulation of images (juxtapositions, panning in and out, etc.) and voice-overs. It gave the whole an illusion of animation. After becoming comfortable with the approach, it's a short leap to gathering visual material from any number of sources to create videos on any subject. Now, camera work or even tape animation could conceivably be added.

60's with the introduction of the camcor- offers a wide variety of courses, der, a combination hand held video camera and cassette tape recorder. Overnight, masses of ordinary people had access to a technology heretofore restricted to a professional elite. Digital technology provides even easier access, particularly the editing feature. Working with video



in Public Television's "Civil War" series. Marda Wohl instructs James Bolerio in computer creativity. Photo by Eugene Kettner

tape can be complicated and expensive. What took hours can be done in, literally, seconds with digital editing. In addition, because the whole operation takes place in the computer, it's simpler to learn and a certain level of proficiency can be attained in a short period of time. Finished pieces can also easily be copied onto video

Though the heart of the center lies in SFDMC continues a trend begun in the story and grassroots component, it workshops, and intensives dealing with the many aspects of new media. Another part of its program is serving as advisors and consultants to corporations and nonprofit organizations, as well as renting time on the equipment to professionals developing projects or expanding their new media skills. SFDMC will, occasionally make videos, themselves, for different groups.

A monthly "Digital Diner," a presentational salon in which new media professionals and companies working with cutting edge technology show and discuss their work has become a significant feature of the program. It's like a trade show or convention floor, but in an intimate environment. In addition, a funded outreach program allows staff to conduct workshops in San Francisco public schools where teachers learn to teach new media techniques to students. SFDMC also has a funded teen summer program in which students take courses and work on projects at the center.

Lambert's background as a political organizer and executive director of "Life on the Water (Life)," one of San Francisco's most innovative theaters of

the late 80s, early 90s, is undoubtedly the source of SFDMC's grassroots vision and unique story approach to new media. Particularly pertinent was Life's O Solo Mio festival, a yearly series that produced solo theater pieces featuring storytellers, performance artists, and monologists from all over the country. Some were well known Broadway stage and film actors, like Danny Glover and Spalding Grey. It was a time that saw a new theater genre -autobiographical confessional theater piece, the performers exposing their private parts -- come into being, and Life was one of its major venues. In 1993, the founders of Life decided to go their separate ways; later, in 1994, it became the SFDMC.

Despite funding cuts, Lambert's visionary zeal has not dimmed. "The cost of new media is rapidly getting lower. By the end of the century, digital equipment able to make 10, 20, 30 minute videos will be cost \$1,000. This could result in a cottage industry with a distribution channel which would allow work to be shown anywhere in the world. The 21st century will see people sending videos through the Internet, or, so as not to impose on users, they can just announce the videos which can be downloaded onto their computers when it's convenient. This should lead to more people controlling their destiny in a world where image and media means a lot about where you are in the pecking order of society.

SFDMC is located at 3435 Cesar Chavez Blvd., Suite 222 - San Francisco, CA 94119, (415) 824-9394, Fax: (415) 824-



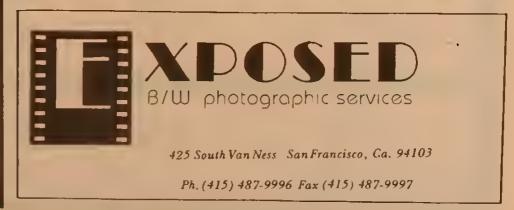


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VALENCIA STREET CYBERSPACE

INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY NOW HAS A MISSION ONRAMP

by Victor Miller

Despite the hype and hoopla about the great information highway only a small percentage of people have actually taken a spin down the road. The initial expense of buying the hardware, overcoming the cyber-phobia and keeping up with the software revolution is a bit overwhelming. Sociologists talk about an underclass of computer illiterates locked off the infobahn because they can't pay the toll and an electro-elite muscle-modeming through virtual vistas.

Cyber Bazaar, a newly opened multimedia and service center, newly opened on Valencia Street attempts to bridge that gap by offering access to all the wonders of cyberspace for as low as \$1.50. This includes hands on help from the non-technobabble staff who can show anyone that can work a TV remote control the pointand-click ABC's of surfing the Net.

Cyber Bazaar as the name implies combines the variety and flash of a Middle Eastern marketplace with the cutting edge technology of Silicon Valley. While offering a wide range of services such as Fed-Ex and UPS shipping, the Bazaar offers monthly mailboxes at \$8.00 and a functioning copy center/stationary supply store. At the Bazaar, just as at all bazaars, competitive pricing is the sin qua non of the enterprise. Flax and Kinko's take note, there's a new kid on the block.

However, the most interesting aspects of the new business pertain to owner Yousef Barakat's concept of making computer technology both affordable and user friendly. For your average citizen who has been bombarded by promotional hyperbolas about the Internet by everyone from Vice President Al Gore to the annoying co-worker who has mastered the rudiments of nerdspeak, the options have been to either stay in the information stone age or shell out major money for stuff you might get bored with or never use at all. For people with a fair



Cyber Bazaar manager Mezan Barakat Photo by Eugene Kettner

amount of disposable income that's all right but for all of us budget-minded folk here in the hood it could be a major financial mistake. Cyber Bazaar lets you check out the electronic frontier in penny pincher portions of \$6 an hour, minimal usage 15 minutes for \$1.50.

This availability is useful to two types of people who are novices to the high tech world. For somebody who's already decided their future lies down the electric freeway but is uncertain of what type of vehicle to traverse it in and just where the hell the road goes, there's the opportunity for a test drive or two, to give a metaphorical kick to the tires of the latest cutting edge cruising machines and burn some virtual rubber across the World Wide Web. Best of all there's no pencil necked cybersales dude trying to hustle you into

buying this week's wallet wounding technology that will wind up being next week's garage sale curiosity.

On the other hand there are some people who will decide that the Internet and its multifaceted amazement represent a periodic indulgence or a research tool that they will employ only occasionally. In this case a wee bit of preparation with those old fashioned tree derivative hardcopy items called books, or some consultation with Dillenger Herman, Cyber Bazaar's plain speaking Webmeister, will allow you to navigate to your chosen destination and not get stuck in electric Lodi. The buck and a half 15 minute session used effectively in this way can get you access to all full text articles on a given subject which appeared in last years SF Chronicle and Examiner, hooked up with UC Berkeley's Paleontology Museum to settle that nagging doubt about the taxonomy of velvet worms, or plugged into one of 13,000 discussion groups. E-Mail accounts for the periodic cybernaut run from as low as \$5 a month, three month minimum, first month free.

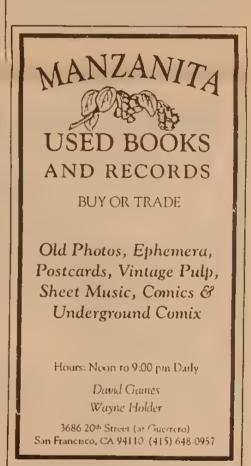
Besides the on line services Cyber Bazaar also offers the most affordable desktop publishing setups in the city so adepts can come in to work with the most up date software including Windows 95, QuarkXPress Page Maker and Photoshop for \$8-15 an hour. Comparative services at a well known chain operation run from \$12 to \$24 an hour.

Expert help is available from Monique Viggiano, who handles the Cyber Bazaar's desktop publishing operation, so that those without professional skill levels can produce professional looking flyers, newsletters, reports, menus, or posters. Color printing is available from \$0.45 a page for laser 600 dpi to \$1.45 a page for color 720 dpi. (Dots per inch, dpi, refers to the resolution capability of a printer; the higher the better.)

Besides the Cyber Bazaar, Yousef Barakat also owns the Club Cafe located in an adjacent storefront in the same building. His brother Mazen manages Cyber Bazaar. Although open only one month Barakat already envisions expanding services to include computerized roommate referral and eventually setting up a dozen Cyber Bazaars throughout San Francisco. "This is a revolutionary concept in how people will use computers," says Barakat.

Cyber Bazaar is located at 924 Valencia Street and open Monday to Saturday 9am to 8pm and Sundays noon to 8pm. Tel/fax 642-0559, E-Mail Bazaar@aimnet.net.







MARIE KNOWS COFFEE 15,000 ESPRESSO DRINKERS CAN'T BE WRONG

by Victor Miller

At has been Has Beans but now it's Marie's. That country kitchen size, four table cafe on Valencia near 21st St. which has been empty for the past year is now Marie's Gourmet Food and Coffee. If everything looks just as it did when the J.B. Louck's people ran it as Has Beans that's because Marie Doran who had been the Has Bean's manager is now the owner/operator of this combination high octane coffee house and gourmet snack and accessory shop. It has the usual wide selection of pastries, coffee beans, teas and bagels that are the makings of a good cafe and a lot more.

Glass jars of Gummi Bears, sour apple O's and chocolate covered espresso beans line the counter. A rack on the opposite wall holds a variety of items for those with discriminating tastes, such as the palate parboiling "Hell" hot sauce mixes and packages of that Aberlour-on-Spey treat Walker's Pure Butter Shortbread Fingers.

But in those semi-conscious hours before the start of the working day, for the vast numbers of Missionites winding their way downtownward to serve a nine to five sentence as skyscraper cannon fodder or to some even more fearsome boss dominated existence, the raison d'etre of Marie's is coffee. Now, while most of the Gen X tattooed rangers who toil in Bohemia's archipelago of cafes can serve up a reasonable and reasonably quick cup of joe, there's always that horrible moment when you realize you're standing in line behind somebody whose been erranded off by an architectural firm to purchase a hideously complex assortment of mixed espressos. Invariably in such situations there's a pierced airhead behind the counter operating the espresso machine with the deliberateness but not the dexterity of Chief Engineer LaForge adjusting the matter/anti-matter flow on the warp engines of the Starship Enterprise;



Coffee-wise Marie Doran also knows tea. Photo by Eugene Kettner

life becomes slow and cruel.

This is not something one has to contend with at Marie's. The sole proprietress ("If partners are so great why doesn't God have a partner," she asks.) and staff are one -- and the same at this micro-business. Marie estimates she has made up about 15,000 espresso drinks in her two decades of yeowomanry in caffeine craft. Experience shows: she works the espresso machine with the hyperkinetic exactitude of a junior high schooler maxing out on video games at the

(For those of us who just like the stuff straight, there are those convenient selfserve thermos that allow one to side step the fancy drink people all together.)

Marie knows coffee alright. A native San Franciscan, she worked for seven years at Alvin's Coffee in the 70's, has worked for the SF Coffee Company (that provides coffee beans for her current business) and spent four years with JB Loucks. (Marie also knows sign painting. Her most notable production from that career: a larger-than-life version of Jack Kerouac can be seen on the side of City Lights Bookstore.)

She began looking for her own business about two years ago and thought the old Has Beans site would have the advantage of an established clientele. There was also the expectation of minimal permit hassles from the city since the space would be used for exactly the same thing, Not all smooth sailing on that score, it was pull that toilet and yank that sink from the city that knows how. So after two months of twelve hour days Marie now knows

plumbing too.

She advises those thinking of going into business for themselves that when first getting started the best thing to do is "call up all of your friends and get them to return every favor you've ever done them."
In Marie's case this could work since she seems to be on a first name basis with almost everyone coming through the door. While she says "the greatest obstacle to opening [the store] was my mind," probably the biggest obstacle to staying open was the work of burglars who in July stole the cash register and espresso machine. In the process of tearing the latter item off its pipes, they flooded the cafe. Marie bounced back thanks to the generous loan of an espresso machine from Silvano Meconi who she describes as "a famous espresso guy." "If he wants it back, I guess I'll have to marry him," she

Marie says a large part of the concept of her cafe is "to have a place women feel as comfortable coming into as men." A step in this direction has been to declare Marie's a No Red Man Zone. The brightly painted man about the Mission will have to deliver his surreal declamations elsewhere. As much of a living landmark as he is, its nice to know there's at least one

place he can be avoided.

Stop by and welcome Marie back to the hood: if not foot racing the meter maid to her hubcap-less muscle car she'll be

there.

Marie's Gournet Foods and Coffees is located at 1038 Valencia Street, between 21st and 22nd Streets. Open Weekdays 7-6, Saturdays 8-5 and Sundays 8-1. Phone 282-





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FRI SEPT 1-THURS SEPT 7

The Story of Brian Wilson

I JUST WASN'T MADE FOR THESE TIMES



The most eagerly awaited documentary of 1995; an absorbing look at one of the century's most gifted musical geniuses—Brlan Wilson! From his painful early years as an emerging young artist (saddled with an abusive father), to his halcyon career as a major pop star with the Beach Boys—and beyond, this beautiful film presents Brian as he is today: a spiritually rejuvenated player with a totally fascinating story to tell. Along the way, Brian finds time to perform many of his greatest songs. Directed by Don Was. B&W. 35mm. 70

WEST COAST THEATRICAL PREMIERE. NIGHTLY AT 6:00, 8:00, 10:00; SAT, SUN, MON, WED MATS AT 2:00, 4:00

FRI SEPT 8-THURS SEPT 14 MINA TANNENBAUM



An intimate and moving story spanning the 25 year friendship between two young Jewish women in Paris. They evolve into beautiful, strong-willed women—Mina, a successful artist, and Ethel, an opportunistic journalist—hut their closeness becomes entangled with shifting self-images, jealousy and resentment. Having depended on each other for most of their lives, they are forced to come to terms with the profound consequences of betraying their friendship. With Romane Bohringer, Elsa Zylberstein. Directed by Martine Dugowson. Color. 35mm. 128 mins. 1994. In French, with English suhtitles.

U.S. TNEATRICAL PREMIERE. NIGHTLY AT 7:00, 9:30; SAT, SUN, WED MATS AT 2:00, 4:30

FRI & SAT SEPT 15 & 16 THE HEMP REVOLUTION



A new documentary ahout hemp (Cannabis Sativa), its fascinating history, its thousands of uses, its intense controversy and its modern potential to solve major environmental, social and health modern potential to solve major environmental, social and health problems. Learn how hemp could revolutionize the planet with a shift from the present unsustainable, petrochemical based economy towards a sustainable plant based economy. Produced and directed by Anthony Clarke, Color. 16mm. 75 mins. 1995. Guest speakers, live music and a Hemp Fashion Show. FRI AT 5:30, 8:30. PLUS SPECIAL U.S. PREMIERE BENEFIT AT 7:30, WITH LIVE MUSIC, HEMP FASHION SHOW AND GUEST PANEL WITH RAM DAS, DENNIS PEROA. SAT AT 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00 SUN SEPT 17

The Life & Work of Audre Lorde

A LITANY FOR SURVIVAL



An epic portrait of the eloquent, award-winning, Black, lesbian poet, mother, and warrior Audre Lorde, whose writing articulated some of the most important social and political visions of this century. This powerful and moving film explores the life and death of what many have called a counterpart in contemporary American history to Malcolm X. Produced and directed by Ada Gay Griffin and Michelle Parkerson. Color and B&W. 16min 90

WEST COAST TNEATRICAL PREMIERE. SUN AT 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00

MON SEPT 18

San Francisco Blues Festival Presents

DEEP BLUES



The working blues musicians of Mississippi! A tour of roadhouses, juke joints, private homes and husinesses to hear the music that has endured and influenced scores of musicians the world over. Featuring Roosevelt "Booba" Barnes and the Playboys, "Big" Jack Johnson, Junior Kimbrough, R. L. Burnside and many others. Directed by Robert Mugge, Color. 16mm. 91 mins. 1992. USA Plus "Cigarette Blues," Les Blank's classic blues short. MON AT 7:00, 9:15

TUES-THURS SEPT 19-21

Herzog In Person!

WERNER HERZOG TRIBUTE



Join us at the Roxie in welcoming one of the world cincina's leading ligures. Mr. Herzog will appear after the 7:00 screenings each evening to talk about the films and answer

TUES

AGUIRRE, WRATH OF GOD

Klaus Kinski delivers an unforgettable pertormance as Aguirre, a power-driven lunatic who dreams of stealing an entire continent A harrowing chronicle of imperialism gone amok. Color. 35mm. 94 mins. 1972. In German, with English subtitles.

WED

STROSZEK

A lyrical, melancholy and funny tale of three Berlin misfits—a mentally unhalanced street singer, a prostitute, and an aging eccentric—who follow the American Dream to Railroad Flats, Wisconsin. With Bruno S., Eva Mattes, Clemens Scheitz. Color. 35mm. 109 mins. 1977. In German, with English subtitles WED AT 1:00, 4:00, 7:00

NEW MISSION NEWS SEPTEMBER 1995 PAGE 17

LESSONS OF DARKNESS

In November 1991, Herzog filmed the extinguishing of the Kuwati oil wells. The final vestiges of the conflict with Iraq expose devastated landscapes, ravaged towns and hattlegrounds, flame-engulled oil wells and simmering, lunar-like deserts. A lyrical and quasi-religious study of the fascination with the apocalypse and the unforgettable. Color. 35mm. 52 mins. 1992. In German, with

WED AT 3:00, 6:00, 9:30

THURS

SCREAM OF STONE

The free-climbing world championships are being commentated by the legendary sport journalist Ivan Radanovic and the renowned alpinist Roccia Innerkofler. Roccia claims that free-climbing has nothing to do with real mountain climbing, prompting champion free-climber Martin Sodimair to challenge. Roccia to a mountain climbing duel in Patagonia. With Vittorio Mezzogiorno, Stefan Glowacz, Donald Sutherland. Color. 35inm. 106 mins. 1991. In German and Figlish. U.S. TNEATRICAL PREMIERE, THUR AT 7:00, 9:30

FRI SEPT 22-THURS SEPT 28

THE MYSTERY OF KASPAR HAUSER

or Every Man For Himself And God Against All



Truffaut viewed his "entant sauvage" through the eyes of French rationalism, Lynch's "Elephant Man" was liounded by scientific humanism. But Herzog's version of the original "Wild Boy" discovered in Ninremburg in 1921 (played brilliantly by Bruno S., a lifelong mental patient) is steeped in 19th Century German romanticism. Herzog—at his most lyrical and most humane—cits incisively through the bars of exploitation to release a prisoner to the Iresh beauties of a world flawed only by Man. Directed by Werner Herzog. Color. BRAND NEW 35nim PRINT. 110 mins. 1977. In German, with English subtitles.

U.S. PREMIERE REVIVAL! NIGHTLY AT 7:00, 9:30; SAT, SUN. WED MATS AT 2:00, 4:30. WERNER NERZOG IN PERSON AFTER 7:00 SNOW FRI SEPT 22 ONLY!

FRI SEPT 29-THURS OCT 5 HALFAOUINE, **BOY OF THE TERRACES**



Belonging to the classic coming-of-age genre, Halfaonine depicts not only the touchingly balfiled response of puherty to first desire, but also offers a rare view of sexuality in Arabic culture. Noura, a 12 year old boy, is at the crossroads of the separate worlds of men and women. Still young enough to go to the women's haths with his mother, he will soon be banished from this paradise of warm eroticism into the harsher world of men. His transition is aided by two compassionate young women. With Selim Boughedir, Mustapha Adouani. Directed by Ferid Boughedir, Color. 35mm. 98 mins. 1990. In Arabic, with English subtitles.

U.S. TNEATRICAL PREMIERE. NIGHTLY AT 7:00, 9:15, SAT, SUN, WEO MATS

FRI OCT 6-THURS OCT 12 KISS ME DEADLY



From the mighty pen of Mickey Spillane comes the most audaclous and brutal non film of the fifties. Against the ultra paranoid backdrop of the Cold War, "bedroom dick" Mike Hammer is sucked into a deadly search for the "great whatsit", a futile chase that will lead him to the end of the world. Brash and harshly unsubtle, Riss Me Deadly is a bizarre masterpiece of sex and violence, as shocking now as it was 40 years ago. Starring Ralph Meeker, Albert Dekker, Paul Stewart, Cloris Leachman. Directed by Robert Aldrich. B&W. 35mm. 105 mins. 1955.

PREMIERE REVIVALI NEW PRINTI NIGHTLY AT 7:00 AND 9:15: SAT, SUN, WED MATS AT 2:00 AND 4:30



CHIROPRACTIC NOTEBOOK

By: Dr. Ross Williams

WHY CHIROPRACTIC?

Chiropractic is the third largest health care profession in the western world, after medicine and dentistry. It is a health care system that seeks to correct the underlying cause of pain and dis-ease, by working to maintain good balance and harmony in the body.

The chiropractor's expertise is the spine. The spine is the protective bony housing for the spinal cord, like the skull is for the brain. The spinal column is made up of 24 movable bones, called vertebrae; 7 in the neck, 12 in the upper back and 5 in the lower back.

Two vertebrae together have a disc between them and a pair of spinal nerves that branch off the spinal cord and exit at that particular level. When vertebra are maintained in proper alignment with each other the result is a strong, flexible and pain-free spine.

However, sometimes, due to an accident, or repetative day-to-day activities, a vertebra can be twisted out of its normal place. It can easily remain stuck in this abnormal position for months or years. This misalignment can irritate the spinal nerves and interrupt normal nerve flow to and from the body. This is called a "vertebral subluxation" and is the underlying cause of many back and health problems.

In addition to nerves being affected, there are other "soft tissues" to be considered. If the spine is misaligned, the muscles and ligaments in that area will be out of balance resulting in swollen muscles, muscle spasms, a loss of strength and flexibility and eventually pain.

Back pain seriously affects the lives of 8 out of every 10 Americans and is exceeded only by headahces and the common cold. Every year there are 7 million new back cases costing 93 million work days lost and 5 billion dollars spent on relief.

What can be done?

The medical approach to back pain can vary, but typically consists of medicine. Muscle relaxants and pain pills given in conjunction with various types of physical therapy to help relieve the symptoms. Surgery is also an option in cases of severe disc damage and some congenital (birth defect) problems.

The chiropractic approach revolves around treatment of the vertebral sub-luxation or spinal misalignment. The chiropractor does this by hand with a gentle "adjustment" or manipulation of the spine in the problem area.

According to a study by the California Division of Labor Statistics and Research chiropractic treatment is surprisingly effective for back pain. The study revealed that chiropractic patient's get back to work in approximately one half the time, compared to regular medical treatment and that 51% of the chiropractic patients reported a complete recovery, as compared to 34.8% for medical patients. Why are the results so overwhelmingly in

tavor of chiropractic over medicine when it comes to back pain? The answer ispain killers, muscle relaxants, valium, braces and physical therapy are not designed to correct spinal subluxations. The chiropractic adjustment is.

However, chiropractic is not just a treatment for back pain. Chiropractic helps to restore the spine and therefore the entire body to a healthier, stress free state. This process often results in many other health problems clearing up.

How do you know if you have a subluxation?

Unfortunately, most likely you won't. Much like tooth decay. You can have it for a long time before you feel pain. Most people with spinal subluxations are not in pain.

Why? Because only sensory nerves carry the pain message. The damage to the nerves and interference with the nerve signals may be happening, but no pain is felt to let you know about the problem, if

the sensory nerves are not affected. Just like tooth decay. You don't feel the cavity until it finally hits a sensory nerve. Then wow! So what about people that have subluxations and no pain? Well this is the job of chiropractors today, to educate people about spinal subluxations and the need for periodic spinal check-ups. Much like dentists educated us many years ago about the importance of regular dental checkups and cleanings.

Only Doctors of Chiropractic are properly trained to analyze the spinal column for vertebral subluxations. Chiropractic is the only healing art designed to locate and correct vertebral subluxations. No pain killers, other drugs or medical procedures can do it. No surgery can do it. Vertebral subluxations will not go away by themselves. Anyone suffering with this condition needs a proper chiropractic spinal analysis and spinal adjustment - nothing else will do.

Ross Williams, D.C.

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by Jacqueline Elizabeth Letalien

Lonce went to a lecture about the Cabala, a Jewish study of magik. The guy giving the talking explained that the essential truth about this mysticism is understanding the paradox. He explained further -- I walked away understanding nothing. A paradox is something like a contradiction but it isn't; something like a continuity but it isn't; something like two things being the same but they're not. Even though I had no clue about the coherence of his talk, the word paradox has stayed with me. I thought it was in my consciousness just to agitate me, which it probably was and wasn't. A paradox can tolerate that kind of philosophical toggle; I can't -- it makes me fussy. In the past month, after years of wonder, I've had two lessons about paradox. These lessons show me the simplicity and complexity of the concept. I still don't quite understand but I'm closer than before or at least I think I'm closer to understanding it but perhaps I'm not.

I went to Mt. Shasta for the second year as a spiritual commitment to the experience of being with a mountain made by lava and rock that isn't supposed to be a sensate creation but it is. The rock has a palpable presence. I've read a fair amount of books on spiritual quests and not one has ever indicated that it's possible to go to some place like Shasta, find one's self in Payless and have the most profound of revelations. A paradox. There was a little girl in one of the aisles with her parent. She was totally absorbed by and involved in a self satisfying her playfulness right there with a whole bunch of people moving around her looking for

very practical items like Kotex or fingernail clippers or in my case, a sleeping bag. I noticed her because she was an ancient dervish in a three year old body. On my way out of Payless, I passed her again. She looked up at me, directly into my eyes (even though she was about four feet shorter than me), totally open to this stranger and said "Hi!" in a way that let me know she was extremely glad to see me even though she hadn't ever seen me before. As a result of this series of paradoxes, I was taught the deep lesson that it doesn't matter who they are, where they've been, what their sexuality is, or economic circumstance or political perspective, a human being is an opportunity, full of possibility.

I return home to the Bay Area with this lesson embedded deeply within my heart. I wonder what'll happen if I'm in the world as a three year old in a forty-seven year old

body. A paradox.

So I'm standing in a line for a pizza and there are two guys in front of me. They're obviously FBI agents: they're wearing the suits, the haircuts, the sunglasses; and one of them is holding a wad of papers with a set of fingerprints on top; they're admiring the beauty of the prints. I'm thinkin: Gawd, these guys are such stereotypes of themselves. (Just to note, I'm being a dyke stereotype with my Converse sneakers, men's pants and backwards hat that reads Cirque de Soleil.) I'm intently staring at them. One of the agents watches me watching them. He leaves the line and I stop paying attention until I get physically nudged from the side. I look up; it's the blonde agent wanting to get my attention which he is. Rather than falling into my leftie politico stance, I'm open to seeing what'll happen next. He says he



went to see Cirque du Soleil and thinks it's a most wonderful circus. There we were: FBI agent and dyke subversive talking about beauty, magikal performance, creative imagination.

I walk away remembering I'd not so long ago written an article that reminded us not to talk to FBI agents when they're asking questions at our doors or work places. I still mean that. When they show

up at my door, I'll decline to speak to them; when they take me to FBI offices, I'll decline to speak to them. I'll remember all the while that for one moment an FBI agent and I stood in a line in a pizza place and talked about a circus, magik and beauty. This is a paradox. The complex, simple truth that emerges is that a human being is an opportunity, full of possibility.



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Kick-off Event--Salsa Party 8-9pm Dance Jessons, 9-12pm Dance Party w/

CañaRoja'merengué The Women's Building 17th Street @ Guerrero Refreshments. \$5.00

Saturday, October 14,1995 "Vintage" Book Mart Vintage, new, used books, posters 16th Street + Valencia 11-6pm Free Sunday, October 15th, 1995

History Walk/Slide Show 9 30am Coffee @ Ti Couz Créperie 10:00am Tour begins 12:00am Slide show. Free to the public

Saturday, October 21st Health & Salety Fair Plaza del Sol + Maria Alicia Apartments 11-2pm Free and open to the public

All events arranged or sponsored by

Sunday, October 22nd 'Flores Para la Virgen' Coro Hispano Concert

Mission Dolores Basilica 16th Street & Dolores 4:00pm Donation \$10, \$8 Seniors, students, children under 16, free.

¡Bienvenidos a todos!

Saturday October 28th, 1995 Raffle drawing a FREE TRIP to island paradise, Isla Mujeres set among the history of the Mayan culture Time/place TBA Tickets available at all events

Tuesday, October 31st Childrens' Halloween Parade + "Trick or Treat" Super-heroes Costume Contest (by donation) Meet at the garden at St. John's Church @15th + Julian 5-7:30pm Free to supervised children the 16th Street Neighborhood Association. For more information and details: 415 522 9535

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Organ Grind - Organ concert by Charles Rus, works by Messiaen, Sweelinck, Bruhns, and Howells. 5PM, The Episcopal Church of Saint John the Evangelist, 1661 15th St., Free, 861-1436.

Tam-Tam Queen - The new generation of the international beat is back in S.F. Zouk, Salsa, Reggae, Soca, Dancehall, and more. 10PM, Il Pirata 2007, 16th at Potrero, \$5, 437-4999.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Glinka, Opera Guy - Ina Chalis Opera Ensemble performs Russlan and Ludmilla and more. John P. Minagro, Marcia Grumme, and Louise Walker star. 7PM, Community Music Center, 544 Capp, \$8/\$3 seniors and children, 647-

Open Micheile Night - Sing it, Read it, Dance it, Act it. Talent not required. Open forum for all. 7:30PM, Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia, \$3-10 donationnone snubbed, 821-4675.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

WAN - The Woman's AIDS Network holds its monthly meeting. Topiccare council comprehensive 5-year plan: a client-centered system of care. 9AM, Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, 1748 Market, 2nd Fl, Free, 621-4160.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Calyx Symbols - An evening honoring four award-winning california authors published by Calyx, a publisher dedicated to feminist books. 7:30PM, Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia, \$3-10 donation, 821-4675.

Soioman in Wonderland - Norman Soloman will discuss media bias in his new book Through the Media Looking Glass. O.J. discussion, don't miss it. 7:30PM, Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St., Free, 282-924.

Witty, Wise - And humorous work, Storyboard, by choreographers and dancers Janice Garrett and Jonathon Lunn. Distinctive and unpredictable. 8pm, Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St., \$12.50/14.50, Tickets and info 621-7797. Through Fri.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Tangled Sheets - Stories and poems of lesbian lust. "when all you are is lust and all you want is her." 7:30PM, Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia, Free, 282-9246.

Piano, Flute, 2 Violins - Chamber music. A concert of works by Beethoven, Mozart, and Halsey Stevens. 8PM, Community Music Center, 544 Capp, Free, 647-6015.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Hear Ye Ali Kids - Storytelling for children between the ages of 4 and 8 by Susan Edwards, a member of the Goddesses We Ain't Collective. 1PM, Glen Park Books, 2788 Diamond St., Free, 586-3733.

Unearthing - An evening of dance. An eclectic mix of styles and cultures, from swamis to the Hanoonoo Mangyan Tribe of the Southern Phillippines. 8PM, Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St., \$12.50/14.50, Tickets and info 621-7797.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

A Defiant Legacy - Galeria de la Raza's 25th Anniversary Tardeada. Appearances by Culture Clash, Frida Kahlo, and more. 4PM, Center for the Arts, 701 Mission, \$35, For advance tickets and info call 826-8009.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Cuba Unzipped - Bill Griffith, creator of the Zippy the Pinhead comic, will speak about his recent trip to Cuba, "one of the few countries on the planet untouched by American Commercial cul-7:30PM, Modern Times ture." Bookstore, 888 Valencia, Free, 282-9246.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

What About Prop J? - Discussion about the Children's Charter Amendment. What's being funded, why, and what can you do to promote positive change. Noon, Coleman Advocates for Children & Youth, 2601 Mission, Ste 804, Free,

Pillow Talk - Joani Blank, founder of Good Vibrations, presents her popular workshop on women's sexuality for men only. Hints and Tips. 8PM, Good Vibrations, 1210 Valencia, \$20 pre-registration, men only, 974-8980.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Dance Ahout - Come see the 14th annual Men Dancing. Leading Bay Area men dancers and choreographers, "performing work and art about the male experience." Hot stuff. 8PM, Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St., \$22/\$18/\$12, tick-

Who Dunnit - Mystery authors extraordinaire Shelley Singer and Jaqueline Girdner will be reading and discussing their latest novels. 7PM, Glen Park Books, 2788 Diamond St., Free, 586-3733.

ets and info 621-7797, through Sun.

Exilerating - Two solo performances addressing the issue of diaspora and internal/external sites of exile; Harmless Medicine by Justin Chin and Auslander by Robert Glick. 8PM, Southern Exposure, 401 Alabama St., \$8/\$5 students, 863-

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

The Hole Truth - Hank Hyena, not his real name, will present 11 satiric stories and poems dealing with society's taboo on sex education. 8:30PM, Shotwell Studios, 3252 19th St., \$7, 703-0591. Also on Sep. 16,17,22,23,24,29,30.

Better See This - Matters of Life and Death, presented by The Ruth Botchan and Pneuma Dance Companies, is a series of dances dealing with life transitions and renewals. "They flow as liquidly as a brook in a spring meadow." 8:30PM, Third Wave Dance House, 3316 24th St., \$10/\$9 seniors and youth, Info (510)848-4878. Through Sep. 18th.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Meiee in Mexico - Bay Area journalist John Ross returns home with an update on the Zapatista's continuing struggle for justice in Chiapas. Fernando Gomez-Benitez of Mexicanos Sin Fronteras joins. 7:30PM, Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia, Free, 282-9246.

Couth Cats - Cat behavior consultant Kate Gamble, P.H.D., conducts monthly

seminar on kitty behavior and how to change it. 11AM, SPCA, 2500 16th St., Free, 554-3000.

Needed: Volunteers - The S.F. Public Schools need volunteers. A volunteer in the classroom cuts the student-teacher ratio in half. Come to the next Training Institute. 9AM, Benjamin Franklin Middle School, Free, 274-0250.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Composer Honored - CMC examines the ground-hreaking career of African-American composer and conductor William Grant Still; slide show and short concert. 7PM, Community Music Center, 544 Capp, Free, 647-6015.

Weave This - Olivia Corson and Company presents Weaving in the Words, Dancing in the Web, improvisational dance and story. "Corson uses theater to transform reality and consciousness." 7:30PM, James Howell Studio, 66 1/2 Sanchez, \$5-\$10, Info (510)547-4467. Also Sep. 24th.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Essential Kabbalah - Internationally respected authority on Jewish Mysticism Daniel C. Matt will read from his new book, The Essential Kabbalah. 7:30PM, Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia, Free, 282-9246.

Misslon Stuff - Attend a community meeting discussing new development in the Inner Mission. Speak. 6:30PM, S.F. General Hospital, Carr Auditorium, 22nd & San Bruno, Free, 206-3669.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Ay Caramba - National Hispanic Literary Award winner Jose Antonio Burciaga reads from his new book of essays, Spilling the Beans. Lots of good stuff. 7:30PM, Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St., Free, 282-9246.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Up and Comers - Listen up: Voices from the Next Generation. "This is so wonderful! These hilarious, funky/fresh, brilliant, angry and crystalline new voices of the next feminist generation." June Jordan. 7:30PM. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia, \$3-10, 821-4675.

Reflex Movement - Knee Jerk Dance Project and Stephanie Maher join forces to share an evening of fiercely female performances, physically daring they say. 8PM, Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St., \$12.50/14.50, 621-7797.

Really? - The Goddesses We Ain't Collective will be reading from its members works, with Maria Rand. 7PM, Glen Park Books, 2788 Diamond St., Free, 586-3733.

On-Line Erotica - So where does all the smutty stuff go down on the Internet? Find out at this panel discussion directed towards all inclinations. 8PM, Good Vibrations, 1210 Valencia, \$20 preregistration, 974-8980.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

White Over All - Michael Novick, White Lies White Power, goes behind the headlines to look at strategies of neo-nazi and white supremacist forces. 7:30PM, Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia, Free, 282-9246

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Water is Wet - Diwata, choreographed by Alleluia Panis and performed hy Kulintang, merges indigenous Pilipino styles with post-modern dance styles, text, and Chinese opera. 8PM, Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St., \$12.50/14.50, 621-7797. Through Sat.

X-rays Are Bad - Join as John Gofman, <u>Preventing Breast Cancer</u>, discusses the relationship between hreast cancer and excessive medical irradiation. 7:30PM, Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia, Free, 282-9246.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Unpretentious - Linda, "I want a Barhie Doll that looks just like me..," reads poetry. 7PM, 3300 Club, 3300 Mission, Free, 333-3494.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Improve Your Backhand - At this book signing featuring Catherine A. Liszt and Dossie Easton, authors of The Bottoming Book, be better boss in bed. 8PM, Good Vibrations, 1210 Valencia, Free, 974-8980.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Political Youths - Does S.F. need a Youth Commission? Other communities do. Come and hear the pros and cons, speak as well if you like. Noon, Coleman Advocates for Children & Youth, 2601 Mission, Free, 641-4362.

Far Out - Come to a special viewing of cahle TV Talk Show, "Points of Interest," featuring Radical Women members Imogen Fua and Toni Mendicino. Twenty-something non-slackers, interesting. 7:30PM-Dinner 6:45, Valencia Hall, 523-A Valencia, Free/\$5 Dinner donation, 864-1278.

Whose Afrald of... - Dancers' Group/Footwork presents an evening of dances by Lea Wolf, with guest choreographer Susi May, "there is a sharp intellect at work...that shapes its material as it explores it," Dance Zine. 8:30PM, Dancers'/Group Footwork, 3221 22nd St. \$10, 824-5044. Thur., Fri, Sat., through Oct. 14.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Return of Mongrel - Colectivo Mestizaje returns with a co-gender group of the Bay Area's most exciting new writers of color. 7:30PM, Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia, \$3 donation, 282-9246.

The Birds and the Bees - Halfaouine: Boy of the Terraces, written and directed by Fred Boughedir, is the tale of an adolescent boy's coming of age in Tunisia. Set partially in communal baths, its steamy. U.S. Premier! The Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St., 863-1087.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Where'd That Come From? - A Hole in the World, Dehorah Slater, producer, & Company/Art of the Matter, explores living through the experience of a loved one dying. Bittersweet, funny, and insightful. 8PM, Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St., \$12.50/14.50, 621-7797.

Left or Right? Go Both Ways - Join local editors and contributors in celebrating the release of <u>Bisexual Politics</u>, the first book about hisexual politics and theory. 7:30PM, Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia, \$3-10, 821-4675.

Attn: Polemic - Bay Area writer Saah Lofton reads from his dehut novel A.D. Saah explores the Nation of Islam and finds them in cahoots with the Radical Right. Shocking and provocative. 7:30PM, Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia, Free, 282-9246.

ONGOING

Every Saturday at 10pm enjoy the hest in Latin American popular and folk music at Peña del Sur at 2870 A 22nd St. for only \$5. Call 550-1101 for this month's schedule.

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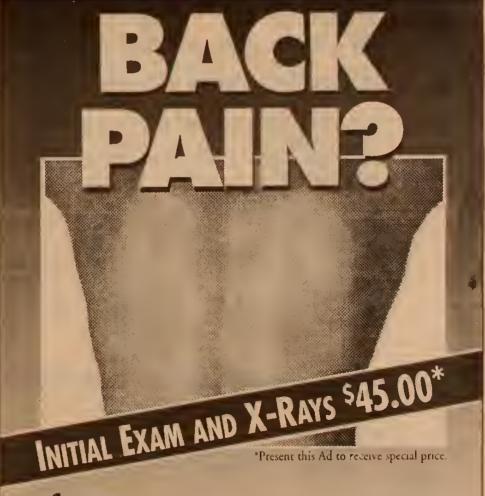


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ROUND WORLD MUSIC REVIEW

by Robert Leaver

RHYTHM AT THE CROSSROADS

Almost one year ago, yours truly had the opportunity to become involved in a unique project: a classic Cuban descarga recording. Producer Greg Landau and I arranged to record the legendary Cuban conga player Carlos "Patato" Valdes with the famous Cuban drummer, Changuito, from the popular band Los Van Van, and salsa's best known timbalero Orestes Vilato along with San Francisco's own Rebeca Mauleon showcasing her virtuosity on keyboards, Joe Santiago on bass, and Enrique Fernandez on saxophone and flute. We only had one day in the studio but that was enough for them to lay down some serious music.

The full range of Cuban rhythms are explored here from the carnival conga of "Desde El Fondo del Rio" to the sacred "Guiro Para Ogun" to the classic son montuno of "San Francisco Tiene Su Propio Son." Greg Landau enlisted the help of our Bay Area talent to round out the recording and complete some of the musical sketches. John Calloway contributed the arrangement for "Desde El Fondo," and plays flute on two cuts. Jeff Narrell plays pans on "Calypso en las Nubes." Fito Reynoso, sonero from Ritmo y Harmonia, sings the lyrics Sebastian Landau wrote for "San Francisco Tiene Su Propio Son." This song features each master soloing, and the lyrics talk about the music that connects us here in San Francisco with the spirit of Havana.

I could write volumes about this record because it is close to my heart, but you can check it out for yourself because

it is officially released 5 September on Redwood Records and will be available in any quantity at Round World Music and any other record store worth visiting. Did I mention the title? RITMO Y CANDELA: RHYTHM AT THE CROSSROADS featuring PATATO, CHANGUITO, Y ORESTES.

I have just returned from my first visit to Cuba and must tell you what I saw there. The salsa bands, such as El Medico de La Salsa, Pachito Alonso y su Kini Kini, David Calzado y su Charanga Habanera, and of course Isaac Delgado and NG La Banda are definitely the most popular now. The day after we arrived there was a huge rally against the blockade attended by more than 500,000 people; Castro gave a speech that was mercifully shorter than usual. Dozens of bands performed afterward with the salsa bands closing out the night to what must have been the largest audience they had ever had (it was also broadcasted on television). The teen heart-throb of Havana is Paulo of Paulo y su Elite who apparently is a santero. One trend that is noticeable in conversation and music is the expanding use of Africanisms as a sort of street-level slang.

Techno, hip-hop, soul, and especially Madonna are massively popular now with the youth of Cuba. The term I heard for this modern dance music was "mona" (ponytail). Everyone seems to be wearing T-shirts and baseball caps with anything and everything American on them; I saw T-shirts with the names of the new football franchises, something I had yet to see



here in San Francisco. We even spotted some American-flag shorts and bandannas. The visual contradictions were intense -- revolutionary slogans on walls and billboards in contrast to the American products everyone seemed to be wearing and consuming; immaculately dressed, beautiful people and dirty children begging for food, and the love for American culture with the dread of the American government (most Cubans are able to make a distinction between Americans and US government policies). One political comment I did hear several times was that the US camps in Guantanamo where the balseros were held were indeed just like concentration camps.

The most profound impression I have of Cuba is of the dynamic energy and vitality of the Cuban people. Dollars are now legal and the black market or unofficial business sector is booming and out in the open. Everyone seems to be hustling for a buck, selling food or drinks, repairing bicycles, and, of course, the age-old trade in flesh is obviously a big attraction to the tourists. We ate at some wonderful palladares restaurants in peoples homes.

"Tourist apartheid" does exist. The people who work in the hotels tell you it is for your protection that no Cubans can visit you in your hotel room. If you thought New York was a challenging place to ride in a taxi, Cuba must be considered the ultimate challenge. Tiny old Russian Ladas chug along the streets along with huge old American cars from the fifties navigating around potholes and disintegrating streets. Every car with seating is a possible taxi. One of our taxis was driven by a doctor who could make more money in a day driving than his monthly salary as a doctor. My experience confirmed the stereotype of Cubans as very friendly and generous people.

This seems to be a very explosive transition time in Cuba -- very exciting and frightening for people. Things seem to be less stable in every respect. At any rate, this is a unique time to visit Cuba. American law allows travel for educational purposes and there are two groups locally that organize tours. You can contact Global Exchange at 255-7296 or Caribbean Music & Dance programs at (510) 444-7173.









ANOTHER DEADBEAT FOR MAYOR

Frank Deadbeat Tosses Hats Into Ring!

If elected, I will comb my hair. I will wear matching socks. I will apply for U.S. citizenship and eat my vegetables. I will make love to my beautiful girlfriend every day and every night, and that's a campaign promise I can keep. (Political Theory: If all mayors, congressmen and presidents made love every day and night, there would be no wars, no nasty little Republicans, no mean-ass budget cuts to social services. If all our politicians were secure in their sexuality, there would be no backlash against Affirmative Action, Gay Rights or Feminism.)

What, you think I'm kidding? Think I couldn't be mayor because I have a life, a soul, a Green Card? Think I couldn't possibly be so stupid as to believe that anyone will take me seriously, or even bother to listen to any of the ideas in this

Think again.

Walk these first few planks of my platform and try not to fall off into the same old mediocre shit.

1) Support Homeless Families. The Matrix Program is a dismal failure. Every year the streets of S.F. look more like the streets of Calcutta. I don't know what to do about the untouchables, the bums and winos except be kind to them, but here's an idea that might work for homeless families with children:

Any landlord owning more than 25 rental units in San Francisco may be called upon to make one of those units available to a homeless family, rent free.

for up to one year. Said families will be screened by a task force chosen by the Board of Supervisors. Also, prior to implementation of this program, a bill will be introduced to the State Legislature proposing that all landlords who participate in the program be granted a reduction in their property taxes commensurate with the loss of rental income.

actly a victory for public health. It also alienates foreign visitors, convincing them that the City That Once Knew How has gone completely off its nut -- and in a city that depends on tourism, such a policy does nothing but betray a precious selfabsorption which, although it may be typical of California, is not what tourists come here to imbibe. (Don't forget: a lot of



THE MAN NEEDS A JOB

2) Mandatory Smoking In Coffee Houses. O.K., maybe I'm kidding about that one...maybe...but it seems to me that to impose a ban on smoking in establishments where the majority of the clientele want to smoke is, by definition, fascistic -- and absolutely mind-boggling to every European, Asian, and South American visitor who comes here for a taste of Frisco-style bohemia. No smoking in restaurants, theaters, no problem --but coffee houses? I mean, really! All it does is drive smokers into bars -- not ex-

young, quasi-hip tourists are attracted by our bohemian rep, and nearly everyone of that ilk is a smoker.)

ATTENTION ALL TOBACCO **COMPANIES!** DUMP WILLIE! **FUND FRANK!**

3) Allow Postering On Utility Poles In Designated Areas. Again, a nice a chunk of our bread & butter (tourists) are attracted by our countercultural rep, our thriving underground scene, which advertises its musical/theatrical/artistic events by postering on public poles, primarily in

neighborhoods where the majority of residents don't mind the posters at all. And yet, there's an anti-poster crackdown underway, thanks to a few complainers.

In a quasi-democracy, are we to allow a tiny bunch of life-negating morons to shut down an entire facet of our local culture? Because a few old farts want to see the streets of San Francisco as free of creativity and self-expression as the streets of Beijing, are we to tell our cops to ticket kids for postering while on the very next corner heroin is being openly sold to your hemorrhoid-afflicted grandmother? I think not.

My proposal: allow postering in the following areas (a total of 25 blocks, citywide):

A) Valencia from 16th to 18th...B) 16th St. from Guerrero to Valencia...C) 24th St. from Valencia to Mission...D) Haight St. from Stanyan to Masonic...E) Haight St. from Scott to Webster...F) Folsom from 5th St. to 12th...G) 11th St. from Harrison to Howard...H) 12th St. from Folsom to Mission.

(Editor's Note: When Employed, just barely, Mr. Deadbeat earns his living by postering.)

O.K., o.k., I realize there are more serious problems facing the city than poster wars, but hey, we have to start somewhere, right? It's always best to start on the little things...and not roll out the guillotines until they're absolutely neces-

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